



Bear Phonics Academy

Bear Math Teacher Guide

51 lessons • the 8 Bear Tracks • for parents and teachers



Mrs. Bear's step-by-step way to teach early math, one small step at a time.
Pairs with the Bear Math Workbook and the online Bear Math class.





How Bear Math works

Young children learn math best in **small steps, in order**, with lots of repeating. Every number, and every idea, is its own lesson. In every lesson Mrs. Bear **teaches** it first, the child **plays** with it, we **check** it gently, and we **review** what came before. Each lesson opens when the one before it is done.

1 • Teach

Say Mrs. Bear's words on the lesson card. Show it with real objects.

2 • Play

Play the online games or use counters. Let the child do it, not watch.

3 • Check

One quick question. Celebrate! If it was hard, it's okay: repeat the lesson.

4 • Review

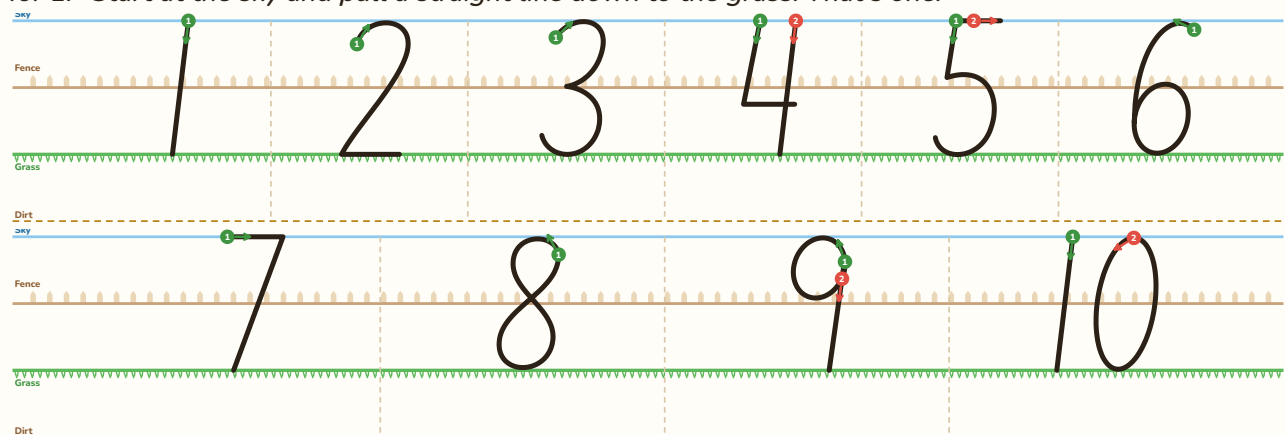
Every lesson also asks about the lessons before it, so nothing is forgotten.

The Tap-N counting rule

- As the child touches each object, **say the number out loud** (or have the child say it), so they know when to stop.
- Nothing is checked until the child says **"I'm done"** (the green check online).
- Too few: "You touched three. We need more! Let's try again. We're looking for the number four."
- Too many: "That's too many! Let's try again. We're looking for the number four."
- On the **3rd miss**, count it together, slowly, then move on. Never let a child get stuck.

Numbers on the Bear Phonics Writing Mat

Numbers are tall: they start at the **sky** and sit on the **grass**. Say the same words every time, for example for 1: *"Start at the sky and pull a straight line down to the grass. That's one!"*





The 8 Bear Tracks

Scope and sequence: 51 lessons, in order. Lesson 1 of every Bear Phonics Online Academy class is a free trial.

Bear Track	Lessons
1 • Count it 🐾	1. The number 1 · 2. The number 2 · 3. The number 3 · 4. The number 4 · 5. The number 5 · 6. Count 1 to 5 · 7. The number 6 · 8. The number 7 · 9. The number 8 · 10. The number 9 · 11. The number 10 · 12. Count 1 to 10 · 13. How many? · 14. Make a group
2 • Match it 🐾 🐾	15. One for each · 16. Number to group 1 to 5 · 17. Number to group 6 to 10 · 18. The same amount · 19. Match review
3 • Compare it 🐾 🐾 🐾	20. More · 21. Fewer · 22. The same · 23. More, fewer or the same? · 24. Bigger number, smaller number · 25. Compare review
4 • Pattern it 🐾 🐾 🐾 🐾	26. Red, blue patterns · 27. Shape patterns · 28. A A B patterns · 29. A B C patterns · 30. What comes next? · 31. Make my own pattern
5 • Shape it 🐾 🐾 🐾 🐾 🐾	32. Count the sides · 33. Count the corners · 34. Shapes all around us · 35. Shape review
6 • Measure it 🐾 🐾 🐾 🐾 🐾 🐾	36. Long and short · 37. Tall and short · 38. Big and small · 39. Heavy and light · 40. Full and empty · 41. How many blocks long?
7 • Join it 🐾 🐾 🐾 🐾 🐾 🐾 🐾	42. What is joining? · 43. Join to make 4 and 5 · 44. Join to make 6 to 10 · 45. Add one more · 46. Join review
8 • Split it 🐾 🐾 🐾 🐾 🐾 🐾 🐾 🐾	47. What is taking away? · 48. Take away from 5 · 49. Take away from 10 · 50. How many are left? · 51. Bear Math award

Pacing

One lesson a day works well for most 3- to 5-year-olds. Some children need a lesson 2 or 3 times, and some take a week on a new idea. That's okay: we want progress, not speed.



Lesson 1 • The number 1 Bear Track 1: Count it · Workbook lesson 1

Goal: Know the number 1 (one): say it, count one objects with one touch for each, find a group of 1, and write 1 on the Writing Mat.

You need: 10 counters (bears, buttons or blocks), the Bear Phonics Writing Mat and a dry-erase marker, crayons.

1 • Teach. Say: "This is the number one. 1! One is all by itself. Just one apple. We have one nose and one mouth. There is one sun in the sky! Now you! Touch the one apple."

2 • Play. Ask: "Which box has one star?" · "Which box has one fish?"

3 • Check, then review: Use the Tap-N rule: the child says each number while touching, and you check only at "I'm done." Then do the workbook page. If it was hard, repeat the lesson tomorrow. That's okay!

Lesson 2 • The number 2 Bear Track 1: Count it · Workbook lesson 2

Goal: Know the number 2 (two): say it, count two objects with one touch for each, find a group of 2, and write 2 on the Writing Mat.

You need: 10 counters (bears, buttons or blocks), the Bear Phonics Writing Mat and a dry-erase marker, crayons.

1 • Teach. Say: "Here is one sun. Remember one? Now watch. One more! One and one more makes two. This is the number two. 2! Two is one more than one. We have two eyes, two ears and two hands!"

2 • Play. Ask: "Which box has two balloons?" · "Which box has two flowers?"

3 • Check, then review: Use the Tap-N rule: the child says each number while touching, and you check only at "I'm done." Then do the workbook page. If it was hard, repeat the lesson tomorrow. That's okay!